

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

FRB-01 OPIC-03 /060 W

----- 078548

O R 041729Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6638

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 18762

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS PFOR, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG VIEWS ON EC SUMMIT

REF: BONN 18462

SUMMARY: THE GERMANS SEE THEIR AGREEMENT TO REGIONAL FUND AS A MAJOR CONCESSION ENTAILING A SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL BURDEN FOR CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT BUT JUSTIFIED BY THE NEED FOR PROGRESS AT THE SUMMIT. THEY EXPECT UK RENEGOTIATION TO BE THE MAIN ISSUE FOR THE SUMMIT. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FONOFF'S DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN POLITICAL  
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COOPERATION, VON DER GABLENTZ, IN BRIEFING EMBOFF

DECEMBER 4 ON THE LATEST ROUND OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE EC SUMMIT, SAID THAT, WHILE THE GERMANS HAD MADE AN IMPORTANT CONCESSION OF PRINCIPLE BY AGREEING TO A REGIONAL FUND ALONG THE LINES OF THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL, THEY HAD NOT SIMPLY DROPPED ALL THEIR CONDITIONS. AT THE SUMMIT, THE GERMAN SIDE WOULD GO ON PRESSING FOR THOSE STABILIZATION MEASURES WITHOUT WHICH, IN BONN'S VIEW, THE FUND WOULD NOT MAKE SENSE AND--WHAT IS PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT--WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO SELL POLITICALLY TO THE WEST GERMAN ELECTORATE. , NEVERTHELESS, GABLENTZ SEEMED CONVINCED THAT THE HEADS OF STATE WOULD MAKE THE NECESSARY DECISIONS AND THAT THE RESULT WOULD BE A PACKAGE IN WHICH RATHER CONCRETE TERMS FOR THE FUND WOULD BE "BALANCED" BY VAGUE FORMULATIONS REGARDING STABILIZATION POLICY--I.E., A NET FRG CONCESSION OF CONSIDERABLE MAGNITUDE, MADE IN THE INTEREST OF HAVING THE SUMMIT HELD AND HAVING IT SHOW AT LEAST MODESTLY RESPECTABLE RESULTS. SCHMIDT WAS WILLING TO TAKE ON THIS EXTRA DOMESTIC POLITICAL BURDEN, GABLENTZ SAID, PRECISELY BECAUSE HE FELT THAT MOVEMENT IN THE AREA OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION WAS VITALLY IMPORTANT AT THIS TIME.

2. GABLENTZ SAW NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE "INSTITUTIONS PAPER", WHICH HE EXPECTED TO BE ADOPTED BY THE SUMMIT WITH LITTLE OR NO CHANGE, INCLUDING BRITISH RESERVATIONS. THE ONE CONTINUING PROBLEM WAS THE BRITISH DESIRE, IN CONNECTION WITH VOTING PROCEDURES IN THE COUNCIL, TO REFER TO THE "LUXEMBOURG COMPROMISE", WHICH THE OTHERS HAD NOT ACCEPTED.

3. GABLENTZ SAW RENEGOTIATIONS OF THE TERMS OF BRITISH MEMBERSHIP AS THE ONE GREAT ISSUE FACING THIS SUMMIT. THE FRENCH WERE TAKING A HARD BUT VERY LOGICAL POSITION: THAT IT DID NOT MAKE SENSE TO MODIFY COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS SIGNIFICANTLY ON BEHALF OF A SINGLE MEMBER WHOSE PARTICIPATION, DESPITE THOSE MODIFICATIONS, WOULD REMAIN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 18762

IN DOUBT. ASSURANCES OF BRITISH DETERMINATION TO STAY  
IN SHOULD THUS COME FIRST. THE PROBLEM WAS, GABLENTZ  
SAID, THAT RIGOROUS FRENCH LOGIC DID NOT ALWAYS TAKE  
ACCOUNT OF POLITICAL REALITIES. THE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL  
OF THOUGHT ON THE BRITISH QUESTION, TENDING TOWARD THE  
OPPOSITE EXTREME, WAS THAT IF THE COMMUNITY ONLY GAVE  
WILSON WHAT HE NEEDED NOW TO COMBAT THE LABOR PARTY'S  
ANTI-MARKETEERS THEN IN TWO YEARS' TIME BRITAIN WOULD  
BE A SECURE MEMBER AND THE CURRENT FUSS WOULD HAVE BEEN  
FORGOTTEN. GABLENTZ COMMENTED THAT A COMPROMISE WOULD  
OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE FOUND SOMEWHERE BETWEEN THESE  
EXTREMES, BUT HE ADDED THAT POLITICAL LEVELS IN THE  
GERMAN GOVERNMENT TENDED TOWARD THE SECOND ALTERNATIVE.  
(HE ADMITTED THAT A NUMBER OF "EC TECHNICIANS" IN THE  
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FOREIGN OFFICE WERE OPPOSED TO ANY SIGNIFICANT COMPRO-  
MISE WITH BRITISH REQUIREMENTS BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT  
THIS WOULD HOPELESSLY WEAKEN THE COMMUNITY AND SET UP  
THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER AS A KIND OF LATTER-DAY  
DE GAULLE, CAPABLE OF HOLDING HIS COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
TO RANSOM ON ALMOST ANY EUROPEAN ISSUE.) GABLENTZ  
CONSIDERED IT CERTAIN THAT IT WAS CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S  
VIEW THAT IT WAS BOTH POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE TO KEEP  
BRITAIN IN AND THAT GREAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE IN THAT  
DIRECTION.

4. COMMENT: WITH REFERENCE TO "BALANCING" OF FRG  
AGREEMENT ON REGIONAL FUND, WE HAVE HEARD FROM SOURCES  
IN CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE AND ECONMIN THAT FRANCE WILL  
MAKE SOME FORM OF COMMITMENT ON IEA. IF THIS COMMITMENT  
IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS PART OF A PACKAGE OF CONCES-  
SIONS MADE IN THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES BEFORE THE SUMMIT,  
ONE OF THE BASIC FRG SUMMIT GOALS WILL HAVE BEEN MET,  
AND IT IS EASIER TO UNDERSTAND THE FRG'S DECISION TO GO  
ALONG WITH THE REGIONAL FUND.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PLANNING MEETINGS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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